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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Docket No.: 780-A02-003-2

Application No.: 09/992,211

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 16, 2001

Examiner: M. Thaler

For: EXPANDABLE CANNULA

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) revised Form PTO/SB/08; and (b) copies of the cited references.

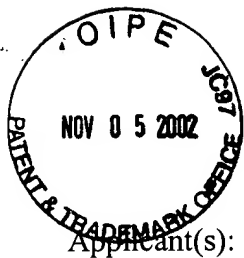
No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11/5/02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-003-2

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